



Office of Government Relations Annual Report 2014

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OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
Overview

This annual report covers work by the Office of Government Relations from January 1 – December 31, 2014.

Mission

The mission of the Office of Government Relations is to support the University of Colorado by building effective partnerships between the University and state and federal governments. This is achieved through representation and advocacy of CU's needs and interests with state and federal elected officials in Colorado and Washington, D.C.

Goals

- Promote the University's interests at the state and federal level.
- Enhance the understanding of the role and value of CU.
- Achieve status as one of the top public university governmental relations offices in the United States.

Strategies

- 1) Maintain visibility at both the state and federal level through testimony, tours, outreach events, Hill visits, and other activities to increase contact with state and federal policy makers.
- 2) Foster relationships between the president, chancellors and designated officers of the university with members of the General Assembly, Colorado Congressional Delegation, and Executive branch of both the state and federal government.
- 3) Engage the business community, CU Advocates, and alumni to help advocate for the university's initiatives.
- 4) Request federal funding for special projects at each campus.
- 5) Lobby for increases in funding by federal agencies. The following agencies are the primary sources of research funding for CU:
 - National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - National Institutes of Health (NIH)
 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 - Department of Defense (DOD)
 - Department of Energy (DOE)
 - Department of Commerce (DOC)
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
 - National Institute of Space and Technology (NIST)
- 6) Educate elected officials about the university through contact with faculty, students, and administrators from all three campuses.
- 7) Provide internal communication by:
 - Holding frequent legislative strategy meetings with top university officers;
 - Providing legislative updates at all three campuses and via email to the university community; and
 - Communicating with appropriate university faculty, administrators, and students regarding specific legislation and policy issues.

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OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
CU Initiated State Legislation

The Second Regular Session of the sixty-ninth session of the Colorado General Assembly convened on January 8, 2014 and ended on May 7, 2014.

S.B. 14-99 Provisional Physical Therapy License (May/Hodge)

The act allows the physical therapy board to issue a provisional license to applicants who have successfully completed a qualifying physical therapy program, and paid a fee. A person with a provisional license is required to practice under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. The provisional license expires no later than 120 days after issuance. The act appropriates \$18,336 from the professions and occupations cash fund to the department of regulatory agencies for operating expenses and legal services.

APPROVED by Governor May 31, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 31, 2014

**S.B. 14-211 Alzheimer's Disease Center (Hullinghorst &Waller/
Balmer & Johnston)**

The act creates the Alzheimer's disease center at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. For the 2014-15 fiscal year, the act appropriates \$250,000 to the University of Colorado for the center.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2014

EFFECTIVE June 5, 2014

H.B. 14-1256 Higher Ed Employment Contracts for Librarians (Fischer/Kerr)

Under current law, a state institution of higher education (institution) may enter into an unlimited number of term employment contracts of up to 3 years for certain classroom teaching appointments. The act allows an institution to also enter into these types of employment contracts with librarians.

APPROVED by Governor March 27, 2014

EFFECTIVE March 27, 2014

**H.B. 14-1391 Authority of Public Treasurer to Pay by (Becker & Priola/Kerr &
Check Hill)**

The state treasurer and the treasurer of the University of Colorado make payments by means of warrants drawn upon them. The act authorizes them to also pay certain obligations by check.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2014

EFFECTIVE June 5, 2014

**S.J.M. 14-006 Congress Authorize Medical Marijuana (Lambert/Joshi)
Clinic Trials**

Memorializing Congress to grant Colorado research institutions the authority to conduct medical clinical trials regarding marijuana's medical efficacy.

 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
Key State Higher Education Legislation

S.B. 14-011 Colorado Energy Research Authority (Heath/Hullinghorst)

The act changes the name of the Colorado renewable research authority to the Colorado energy research authority (authority) and makes the following changes to the authority:

- Modifies the composition of the authority's board;
- Identifies the consortium that receives allocations from the authority as the Colorado energy research collaboratory (collaboratory);
- Permits the authority to undertake various promotional and educational activities, rather than requiring it to do so;
- Permits the authority to promote the collaboratory's activities in order to increase the federal energy research funding and energy-related research funding;
- Modifies the information to be included in the authority's annual report and requires the report to be delivered to the Colorado office of economic development (office) instead of legislative committees; and
- Substitutes "clean energy" for "renewable energy".

The act also creates the energy research cash fund. The state treasurer is required to transfer \$1 million to the fund on July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2015. The moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the office for its administrative expenses and for the purpose of distributing moneys to the authority for use as state matching funds and for the authority's other permitted activities. The office may not distribute any moneys to the authority for use as state matching funds unless the office receives proof of the other matching funds. The authority may not use more than \$50,000 per year for its other permitted activities.

Following a fiscal year when the office distributed money to the authority, the office is required to submit a report to certain legislative committees summarizing all of the distributions made during the preceding fiscal year. The report must include any information provided to the office by the authority in its report.

APPROVED by Governor May 16, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 16, 2014

H.B. 14-1319 Outcomes-based Funding for Higher Education (Ferrandino & Holbert/Todd & Lambert)

Beginning with the 2015-16 state fiscal year, the act creates a method for determining the amount of the fee-for-service contracts entered into by the department of higher education (department) and the governing boards of state institutions of higher education (institutions), excluding the local district junior colleges, area vocational schools, and specialty education programs. Each fee-for-service contract includes up to 6 role and mission funding factors and up to 6 performance funding metrics. The Colorado commission on higher education (commission) shall convene meetings with interested stakeholders to determine the components of each role and mission factor and each performance funding metric. The role and mission factors include:

- Institutional mission funding, to offset the costs of providing undergraduate programs. In establishing the components of the factor, the commission shall consider, among other components, selectivity, the number of campuses, rural and urban location, low-enrollment that affects operational costs, and whether the institution conducts research.

- Support services for Pell-eligible students, which funding shall be at least equal to 10% of the amount of the college opportunity fund stipend. The commission may provide funding for support services for first-generation and underserved students.
- Graduate program funding, to offset the costs of providing graduate programs. At a minimum, the factor must include an amount for each graduate student, which amount may be based on the subject and level of the graduate program and, in determining the amount of funding, the commission shall consider programs that have a high-cost-per-student.
- Remediation, to offset the costs of providing basic skills programs and approved supplemental academic instruction to students who are not ready for college-level work. The commission shall determine how to measure successful remediation.
- Up to 2 additional role and mission factors as determined by the commission.

Each role and mission factor may be applied differently to institutions, but to the extent possible, similar institutions must be treated similarly.

The performance funding metrics include:

- Completion, including an amount of funding for each certificate or degree awarded by an institution and, for a community college, an amount for each student who transfers to another institution after completion of a certain number of credit hours, as determined by the commission. The commission shall increase the value of each credential, degree, or transfer by Pell-eligible students and may increase the value for first-generation and underserved students.
- Retention, including an amount of funding for students who make academic progress by completing 30, 60, or 90 credit hours; and
- Up to 4 additional performance funding metrics that support the policy goals adopted by the commission.

Each performance funding metric must be applied uniformly to all institutions.

Colorado school of mines is permitted to study and recommend a different funding structure for its institution.

The amount of the fee-for-service contracts for specialty education services for the governing boards of the health sciences center of the University of Colorado, the Colorado cooperative extension service, and the veterinary medicine program at Colorado state university are increased or decreased annually by the percentage that reflects the yearly increase or decrease in total state appropriations for institutions. However, for the health sciences center and the veterinary medicine program, the funding may increase by a greater percentage or decrease by a lesser percentage. In determining the amount of the contract, the department shall consider that these are high-cost, low-enrollment programs. The commission and the department may also recommend that an additional program receive specialty education funding, and the joint budget committee of the general assembly may introduce legislation to implement the recommendation. The annual amount of direct grants to local district junior colleges and area vocational schools is determined in the same manner as fee-for-service contracts for specialty education services. However, after considering the status of performance contracts with the local district junior colleges and area vocational schools, the department may recommend that grants increase by a greater percentage or decrease by a lesser percentage. Colorado Mountain College may elect to participate in the fee-for-service contract provisions that apply to other institutions, and the act sets forth the process for the election.

- \$5,000,000 to the commission for financial aid work study;
- \$5,000,000 to the commission for financial aid for merit-based grants;
- \$35,349,845 to the college opportunity fund program for stipends for students attending state institutions;
- \$162,480 to the college opportunity fund program for stipends for students attending private institutions;
- \$22,364,040 to the college opportunity fund program for fee-for-service contracts with state institutions;
- \$1,394,266 for local district junior college grants; and
- \$891,849 to the division of occupational education for area vocational school support.

Additionally, the act appropriates \$57,713,885 to the department of higher education that is re-appropriated to the college opportunity fund program and to the governing boards. The amount appropriated to the college opportunity fund program is based upon the assumption that 130,925 student FTE attending state institutions will receive stipends and the per-student amount is increased from the amount included in the annual general appropriations act (House Bill 14-1336) of \$1,980 per 30 credit hours to \$2,250 per 30 credit hours.

APPROVED by Governor May 1, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 1, 2014

S.B. 14-004 Community College Four-year Programs (Wilson & May/Todd)

The act allows the state board for community colleges and occupational education (state board) and the governing board of Aims community college to seek approval from the Colorado commission on higher education (CCHE) for technical, career, and workforce development bachelor of applied science degree programs that may be offered at community colleges within the state system or at Aims community college. Among other things, the state board or the governing board of Aims community college must show workforce and student demand for the degree program and cost-effectiveness to students and the institutions.

The CCHE may approve bachelor of applied science degree programs that meet criteria established in the act. Among other factors, the CCHE shall consider whether the proposed bachelor of applied science degree program is sufficiently distinguishable from an existing degree program at a state 4-year institution of higher education in the community college's geographic service area or whether the degree program could be delivered in the community college's service area through a statewide transfer agreement with a state 4-year institution of higher education. If the CCHE approves a bachelor of applied science degree program for the state board, then the state board may authorize the establishment of an approved bachelor of applied science degree program at a community college within the state system.

Finally, the act expands the role and mission of Western state Colorado university to allow the university to provide basic skills courses directly in Chaffee and Gunnison counties and to receive resident credit for those basic skills courses.

APPROVED by Governor February 27, 2014

EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014

S.B. 14-028 Expand Electric Vehicle Charging Station (Duran & Tyler/Jones)
Grants

The act expands the existing list of persons and entities that are eligible to receive moneys from the electric vehicle grant fund, administered by the Colorado energy office (CEO), by adding state agencies, public universities, public transit agencies, and private businesses and nonprofits. The act also allows the CEO to consider the extent to which grant applicants' proposed charging locations serve existing vehicles or encourage the acquisition of new vehicles and whether a charging station would not be installed but for a grant.

APPROVED by Governor April 11, 2014

EFFECTIVE April 11, 2014

S.B. 14-103 Phase In High-efficiency Water Fixture Options (Fischer/ Guzman)

The act defines a "watersense-listed plumbing fixture" as one that has been:

- Tested by an accredited third-party certifying body or laboratory in accordance with the federal environmental protection agency's WaterSense program;
- Certified by such body or laboratory as meeting the performance and efficiency requirements of the program; and
- Authorized by the program to use its label.
- Current law requires water-efficient indoor plumbing fixtures in only 3 contexts:
- Builders of new single-family detached residences must offer the buyers toilets, faucets, and showerheads that meet the current standards of the WaterSense program;
- Tank-type water closets and flushometer toilets in new state buildings must meet certain standards that are either less stringent than or as stringent as the current WaterSense standards; and
- New construction and renovation of residential structures and office, commercial, or industrial buildings must meet standards that are less stringent than the current WaterSense standards.

Section 1 of the act prohibits the sale of new lavatory faucets, shower heads, flushing urinals, tank-type toilets, and tank-type water closets on and after September 1, 2016, unless they are a watersense-listed plumbing fixture. **Sections 2 through 5** amend or repeal conflicting portions of current law.

APPROVED by Governor June 6, 2014

PORTIONS EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014

PORTIONS EFFECTIVE September 1, 2016

S.B. 14-110 Recommendations For Financing Capital (Gerou/Steadman)
Construction

In Senate Bill 09-228, the general assembly set a 5-year block of statutory transfers from the general fund to the capital construction fund and the highway users tax fund. The transfer for capital construction was scheduled to begin in the 2012-13 state fiscal year, provided a trigger was met. Since the trigger has not yet occurred, the block of transfers has not started.

In addition to the transfers, Senate Bill 09-228 also required the capital development committee to develop and make recommendations concerning new methods of financing the state's ongoing capital construction and controlled maintenance needs prior to January 1, 2016, which would have been just prior to the last fiscal year of the required transfers, if the trigger occurred, so that when the transfers end a new funding mechanism could possibly be in place.

Since the transfers have not yet occurred, the act changes the deadline for the development of recommendations concerning new methods of financing the state's ongoing capital construction and controlled maintenance needs to align with the fourth year of anticipated transfers to the capital construction fund. The act also moves the responsibility for recommendation development to the joint budget committee rather than the capital development committee, but requires the recommendation development to be completed in consultation with the capital development committee.

APPROVED by Governor April 7, 2014

EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014

S.B. 14-114 Student Access to CSU Global Campus

**(Holbert & Hamner/
Todd)**

The act amends the role and mission of Colorado state university - global campus on-line university (CSU global campus) to permit baccalaureate degree programs instead of upper-division baccalaureate completion degree programs.

For baccalaureate degree students residing in Colorado, CSU global campus has moderately selective admission standards and shall not admit first-time freshman students who reside in Colorado who are under 23 years old. CSU global campus shall not offer certain degrees specified in the act.

On-line baccalaureate degree programs that will be offered to Colorado residents that did not exist prior to the effective date of the act must be reviewed and approved by the Colorado commission on higher education. The act specifies criteria that must be considered in determining whether to approve a new program.

APPROVED by Governor May 2, 2014

EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014

S.B. 14-174 Prosecution Fellowship Program

**(McLachlan & Pabon/
Heath & Johnston)**

The act creates the prosecution fellowship program (program) in the department of higher education. The program will provide money to the Colorado district attorneys' council to fund 6 fellows from the University of Colorado school of law and University of Denver Strum college of law at rural district attorneys' offices in the state. Each school must contribute an equal amount toward 20% of the fellows' salary costs to participate in the program. The fellows will receive a 5-day training practicum prior to beginning work. The initial fellowships will be awarded in fiscal year 2015-16.

The act creates the prosecution fellowship committee, which will select the fellowships and district attorneys' office locations and match the fellows with a district attorney's office.

By January 1, 2019, the Colorado district attorneys' council shall report to the judiciary committees regarding the program, including placement information, workload reduction information, and innovations created through the program.

APPROVED by Governor May 19, 2014

EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014

S.B. 14-205 Talent Pipeline Working Group

(Young/Newell)

The state work force development council (state council), the department of higher education, the department of education, the department of labor and employment, and the Colorado office of economic development (the departments) are required to work collaboratively to:

- Discuss and determine needs across key industries and occupations in the state, including challenges and opportunities in developing and growing relevant talent pipelines;
- Ensure that the talent pipeline development infrastructure includes certain elements;
- Utilize sector partnerships to advise the development of career pathway programs for critical occupations in key industries and to ensure the coordination of education and workforce initiatives to develop a strong talent pipeline; and
- Utilize existing measures and data systems to improve systems alignment and inter-agency communication.

The state council, in partnership with the departments, is required to coordinate the production of an annual Colorado talent report.

The heads of the departments are required to include the recommendations from the state council, and any comments they may wish to add concerning the recommendations, to the house of representatives and senate committees of reference with jurisdiction over business issues by January 1, 2015.

The state council is authorized to seek and accept gifts, grants, or donations from private or public sources for the purposes of the state council. Any moneys that the state council receives from gifts, grants, or donations are credited to the talent pipeline cash fund, which is created in the state treasury.

APPROVED by Governor May 21, 2014

EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014

S.B. 14-214 PERA Studies Conducted By Actuarial Firm

**(Gerou & May/
Lambert & Steadman)**

The state personnel director is required to contract with a third party compensation consulting firm with actuarial expertise and national standing to perform a total compensation study that includes the retirement benefits provided by the public employees' retirement association (PERA). By January 15, 2015, and by January 15 every 8th year thereafter, the state personnel director is required to submit to the governor and the joint budget committee, along with the annual compensation report, an addendum with the total compensation study that includes retirement benefits.

In addition to the study required by the state personnel director, the state auditor, in cooperation with PERA, is required to contract with a nationally recognized and enrolled actuarial firm to conduct the following analyses of PERA:

- A comprehensive study comparing the cost and effectiveness of the current hybrid defined benefit plan design currently administered by PERA to alternative plan designs in both the public and private sector; and
- A sensitivity analysis to determine when, from an actuarial perspective, model assumptions are meeting targets and achieving sustainability.

PERA and the state auditor are required to confer with the office of state planning and budgeting regarding the scope of the analyses and are required to provide 2 reports detailing the findings of

the studies to the governor, the joint budget committee, the legislative audit committee, and the finance committees of the senate and the house of representatives. PERA is required to provide access to official member information and data under a confidentiality agreement with the retained firms for all 3 studies.

For the 2014-15 state fiscal year, \$125,000 is appropriated to the department of personnel from the general fund for vendor contract expenses and \$375,000 is appropriated to the legislative department from the general fund to be allocated to the office of the state auditor for vendor contract expenses.

APPROVED by Governor June 4, 2014

EFFECTIVE June 4, 2014



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key State Health Care Legislation

H.B. 14-1271 Mental Health Duty to Warn Target Entities (Melton/Newell)

Current law grants immunity from liability to a mental health provider who has a duty to warn a specific person or persons when a patient has communicated to the provider a serious threat of imminent physical violence against that person or persons. The act extends that immunity and duty to warn to include persons or persons identifiable by their association with a specific location or entity.

APPROVED by Governor April 7, 2014

EFFECTIVE April 7, 2014

H.B. 14-1281 Terminal Patients Investigational Drugs (Joshi & Ginal/Aguilar & Rivera)

The act allows eligible patients to use investigational drugs, biological products, and devices.

The act defines an eligible patient as a person who has:

- A terminal illness;
- Considered all other treatment options currently approved by the United States food and drug administration;
- Been unable to participate in a clinical trial;
- Received a recommendation from his or her physician;
- Given written, informed consent for the use of the investigational drug, biological product, or device; and
- Received documentation from his or her physician that he or she meets the definition of "eligible patient".

The act allows a manufacturer to provide an investigational drug, biological product, or device to an eligible patient for no compensation or to charge the patient for the costs. The act clarifies that a health insurance carrier is not required to pay for the investigational drug, biological product, or device.

The act prohibits any action against a health care provider's license for his or her recommendations regarding the use of investigational drugs, biological products, or devices.

The act prohibits an official, employee, or agent of the state from blocking or attempting to block a patient's access to investigational treatment.

APPROVED by Governor May 17, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 17, 2014

H.B. 14-1323 Restrict Gov Access Personal Medical (Primavera/Kefalas & Lundberg)
Information

The act prohibits the department of revenue from accessing an individual's personal medical information or medical record without the individual's consent. If a department employee authorizes the department, in its role as an employer, to access his or her personal medical information or medical record in connection with an employment-related request, occurrence, or claim, such as a request for a workplace accommodation or for family medical leave, the employee's consent applies for the duration of the request, occurrence, or claim.

The act permits the department to access an invoice, receipt, or other documentation of a sale of a prescription drug or other item exempt from sales tax as long as:

- Personal medical information or a medical record is not contained in the documentation; and
- Any information that identifies or could be used to identify an individual patient or that indicates a patient's diagnosis or treatment plan is redacted from the documentation.

Additionally, the department may continue to obtain and use a written medical opinion in determining physical or mental fitness to operate a motor vehicle in accordance with procedures authorized by law.

The act also creates the government access to personal medical information task force to review, analyze, and make recommendations regarding the ability of state and local government departments and agencies to access, use, and distribute personal medical information. The governor is to appoint representatives from impacted state departments and universities and representatives from or of quasi-governmental entities, local governments, health care providers, health plans, mental health care consumers, consumer advocacy groups, consumers with chronic illnesses, consumers with cancer, and patient privacy rights groups to serve on the task force and is to invite the state auditor or his or her designee to participate. The task force must meet at least once but no more than 4 times between July 15, 2014, and November 1, 2014, and is to submit its report and recommendations to specified legislative committees by November 1, 2014. Additionally, the task force is to present its report to the legislative committees during hearings held under the "State Measurements for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act".

State departments and agencies are to implement the act within existing appropriations.

APPROVED by Governor May 31, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 31, 2014

**H.B. 14-1343 Firefighter Peace Officer PTSD Work Comp (Singer & Wright/
Coverage Tochtrop)**

The act creates a peace officer post-traumatic stress disorder task force to research work-related peace officer post-traumatic stress disorder and other relevant topics as determined by the task force. The task force is composed of appointees from various law enforcement agencies, executive departments, attorneys, and mental health professionals with expertise in post-traumatic stress disorder. The task force is required to report its findings to the health committees of reference in the senate and the House of Representatives and is repealed effective December 31, 2015.

APPROVED by Governor June 6, 2014

EFFECTIVE June 6, 2014

**H.B. 14-1383 Workers' Compensation Physician Choice (Williams/Tochtrop &
Ulibarri)**

The act generally requires an employer or a workers' compensation insurer to provide a list of at least 4 separate and independent physicians or corporate medical providers to an injured employee from which to select a treating physician. But the act allows an employer or insurer to instead designate fewer than 4 medical providers or a combination of the providers in a rural area where there are a limited number of physicians or corporate medical providers within 30 miles of the employer's place of business.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2014
EFFECTIVE April 1, 2015

H.B. 14-1396 Med Pot Registry Access Health Dept (Ryden/King)
Contractors

The act clarifies that the term "authorized employees of the state health agency", as used in article XVIII, section 14 of the Colorado constitution, which created the medical marijuana registry, includes independent contractors or other agencies acting on behalf of the department of public health and environment under a contract or intergovernmental agreement. The act also specifies that these contractors are not, as a result of this authorization, entitled to state employee benefits.

A primary caregiver is prohibited from growing, selling, or processing marijuana for any person unless that person has a registry identification card and the caregiver is identified on the registry as the person's primary caregiver.

APPROVED by Governor June 6, 2014
EFFECTIVE June 6, 2014

S.B. 14-050 Financial Assistance in Colorado Hospitals (Moreno/Aguilar)

The act requires each hospital to include in its billing statements to a patient information regarding the patient's rights, information regarding financial assistance and charity care, and contact information to obtain assistance or charity care. The act requires a hospital to correct billing errors and omissions, to inform the patient of an error, and to provide financial correction to persons affected by the error. The act outlines reporting requirements to the department of public health and environment and allows the department to investigate certain errors and omissions. The act specifies a complaint, review, and corrective action plan for hospitals and the department, and it requires the department to make information available regarding any corrective actions for which fines were imposed.

A hospital financial assistance standards committee is created to develop recommendations for uniform standards consistent with the act.

The act appropriates \$49,161 from the general fund and 0.8 FTE to the department of public health and environment.

APPROVED by Governor May 29, 2014
EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014

S.B. 14-067 Medical Assistance Program Align With (Singer/Aguilar)
Federal Law

The federal "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" enacted in 2010 made certain changes to the eligibility groups in the medicaid program. The act makes technical changes to the statutes to align the eligibility provisions of Colorado's medical assistance program and the children's basic health program with the changes under federal law. Specifically, the act:

- Removes obsolete eligibility group descriptions and renames and consolidates eligibility groups to conform to the current medicaid eligibility groups under federal law;
- Defines "modified adjusted gross income" by reference to the federal definition for purposes of determining income eligibility;
- Removes obsolete language regarding income- and resource-counting methods;

- Updates statutory language relating to income verification through federally approved electronic data sources; and
- Clarifies that application data and verifications for individuals who are ineligible for medical assistance will be transferred to the state insurance marketplace.

APPROVED by Governor February 27, 2014

EFFECTIVE February 27, 2014

S.B. 14-155 Medical Marijuana Health Effects Grant Program (Duran & May/ Steadman)

The act creates a health research subaccount (subaccount) in the medical marijuana program cash fund (cash fund). The subaccount provides funding for medical marijuana health research. The department of public health and environment (department) may transfer moneys from the cash fund to the subaccount and has continuous spending authority over the subaccount. No more than \$10 million may be transferred to the subaccount.

The act creates a medical marijuana research grant program (grant program) in the department. The grant program will provide the framework for funding research to ascertain the general medical efficacy and appropriate administration of marijuana, its component parts, and hemp. The state board of health (state board) shall promulgate rules for the administration of the grant program, including:

- The procedures and timelines for applying for grants;
- Grant application contents;
- Criteria for selecting grantees and determining the amount and duration of the grants; and
- Reporting requirements for grantees.

The grant program can solicit gifts, grants, and donations to add to the funds available for research as long as the donor understands there will be no determined outcome.

The act creates a scientific advisory council (council) to evaluate research proposals seeking a grant from the grant program. The executive director of the department shall appoint the members of the council, and the chief medical officer of the department will also serve on the council and act as chair. The members will serve 2-year terms that may be reappointed and will be reimbursed for travel expenses.

The grant recommendations will be submitted to the state board for a final determination. The grant program shall report annually to the state board on the progress of the medical marijuana studies.

The act directs the attorney general to seek federal authority to allow Colorado institutions of higher education to cultivate marijuana for research funded by this act.

APPROVED by Governor May 21, 2014

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2014

H.B. 14-1037 Enforcing Laws Against Designer Drugs (Landgraf/ Baumgardner)

A person who distributes, dispenses, manufactures, displays for sale, offers for sale, attempts to sell, or sells any product that contains any amount of any synthetic cannabinoid commits a deceptive trade practice and shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$500,000 for each violation. A person shall forfeit and pay to the general fund of the state a civil penalty of not less than \$25,000 and not more than \$500,000 for each violation if the

person distributes, dispenses, or sells the product to a minor under the age of 18 and the person is at least 18 years of age and at least 2 years older than the minor.

A person is deemed to have committed a violation for each individually packaged product that he or she distributed, dispensed, manufactured, displayed for sale, offered for sale, attempted to sell, or sold.

On and after September 1, 2014, the Colorado bureau of investigation (bureau) shall purchase and maintain materials and equipment to be made available by the bureau to law enforcement agencies and to the liquor enforcement division within the department of revenue for the presumptive identification of synthetic cannabinoids or any other designer drugs.

The act amends existing provisions relating to the distribution of cathinones to conform to the act's new provisions relating to synthetic cannabinoids.

The act appropriates \$21,484 to the department of corrections for each fiscal year beginning with the 2015-16 fiscal year and continuing through the 2018-19 fiscal year for the act's implementation.

For the 2014-15 fiscal year, the act appropriates \$339,602 and 0.6 FTE to the department of public safety and decreases moneys in the controlled maintenance trust fund by \$339,602.

APPROVED by Governor June 6, 2014

EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014

S.B. 14-184 Oversight of the Industrial Hemp Program (Coram/Schwartz)

The act requires the industrial hemp committee to work with the department of agriculture (department) to establish a hemp seed certification program. The act removes the 10-acre limitation for growing industrial hemp. A person who wishes to grow industrial hemp may apply to the department at any time prior to planting.

The department is directed to administer an industrial hemp grant research program that is funded through registration fees, private sources, and moneys from the marijuana cash fund or the marijuana tax cash fund. The grants allow state institutions of higher education to conduct the research. The act creates the industrial hemp research grant program fund.

The act allows a person to process, sell, and distribute hemp cultivated by a registered person or to sell hemp products produced from the hemp.

APPROVED by Governor May 31, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 31, 2014

 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
Other Legislation

H.B. 14-1336 Long Appropriations Bill (Duran/Steadman)

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, the act provides for the payment of expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the state of Colorado, and of its agencies and institutions. The grand total for the operating budgets is \$23,988,465,813. Of that amount, \$6,631,729,188 is from the general fund portion of the appropriation, \$2,077,547,200 is from the general fund exempt portion, \$6,708,813,529 is from the cash funds portion, \$1,345,469,247 is from the re-appropriated funds portion, and \$7,224,906,649 is from federal funds portion.

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, the act provides for the payment of capital construction projects. The grand totals for capital construction projects is \$492,833,491. Of that amount, \$364,420,213 is from the capital construction fund portion of the appropriation, \$116,124,738 is from the cash funds portion, \$8,566,515 is from the re-appropriated funds portion, and \$3,722,025 is from the federal funds portion.

The 2011 general appropriation act is amended to increase the total amount appropriated to the department of public health and environment for superfund sites cleanup.

The 2012 general appropriation act is amended to make adjustments to those appropriations made to the departments of education, health care policy and finance, and higher education.

The head notes to the long bill for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, are amended to increase the amounts specified in the controlled maintenance trust fund and state properties portions.

The 2013 general appropriation act is amended to make additional changes to those appropriations made to the departments of education, governor, lieutenant governor, and state planning and budgeting, health care policy and finance, higher education, human services, personnel, and public safety.

Appropriations made in House Bill 14-1252, concerning funding for system capacity changes related to intellectual and developmental disabilities waiver services is amended to add an appropriation for needs assessments of persons waiting for Medicaid home- and community-based services.

Appropriations made in Senate Bill 13-266, concerning a request for proposals process to create a coordinated behavioral health crisis response system for communities throughout the state is amended to decrease the total amount appropriation to the department of human services.

Appropriations made in House Bill 13-1254, concerning restorative justice is amended to the increase the total amount appropriated to the judicial department.

An appropriation made by House Bill 13-1042, concerning a state income tax deduction for a taxpayer who is prohibited from claiming a federal income tax deduction by section 280E of the internal revenue code because marijuana is a controlled substance under federal law is repealed.

An appropriation made by House Bill 13-1318, concerning the recommendations made in the public process for the purpose of implementing certain state taxes on retail marijuana legalized by section 16 of article XVIII of the Colorado constitution is amended to decrease the total amount appropriated to the department of revenue.

An appropriation made by Senate Bill 13-230, concerning the provision for payment of the expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the state of Colorado, and of its agencies and institutions, for and during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, is amended to

make \$45,000 of the total amount appropriated available through June 30, 2015, for a child welfare workload study in the state auditor's office.

An additional amount is appropriated to the controlled maintenance fund for the purpose of increasing the principal in the fund.

APPROVED by Governor April 30, 2014

EFFECTIVE April 30, 2014

H.B. 14-1342 Transfers of Money Related to Capital (Duran/Steadman)
Construction

For the 2014-15 fiscal year, the act transfers \$224,993,465 from the general fund to the capital construction fund and \$500,000 from the general fund exempt account of the general fund to the capital construction fund.

The act also requires the director of research of the legislative council to work with the state controller to determine a preliminary figure representing the estimated general fund surplus for the fiscal year 2013-14. When such preliminary figure is determined, the state controller is required to provide such preliminary figure to the state treasurer, the director of the office of state planning and budgeting, and the director of the joint budget committee before September 15, 2014. The act then requires that on September 15, 2014, an amount equal to ninety percent of that preliminary figure is allocated in the following order of priority:

- The state treasurer shall transfer \$30 million from the general fund to the Colorado water conservation board construction fund;
- The state treasurer shall transfer \$20 million from the general fund to the state education fund;
- \$25 million shall remain in the general fund;
- The state treasurer shall transfer up to \$135,335,748 from the general fund to the capital construction fund; and
- The state treasurer shall transfer any remaining amount to the state education fund.

The act then specifies that on the date on which the state controller publishes the comprehensive annual financial report of the state for the fiscal year 2013-14, the amount of the remaining general fund surplus is to be allocated as follows:

- If the transfer to the capital construction fund was not fully funded, the state treasurer is required to transfer an amount to the capital construction fund equal to the lesser of the amount of the remaining general fund surplus or the amount required to fully fund the transfer; and
- If there is excess remaining general fund surplus over and above the total transfer to the capital construction fund, the state treasurer is required to transfer any excess remaining general fund surplus to the state education fund.

With respect to the amount of general fund surplus transferred to the capital construction fund, the act specifies that if the amount transferred equals \$135,335,748, then such amount is available for appropriation in the following order of priority:

- \$5 million to the Auraria higher education center for the second phase of a two-phase project to renovate the Auraria library;
- \$10,827,755 to Fort Lewis college for phase two of a three-phase project to construct a new facility for the geosciences, physics, and engineering departments, known as Berndt hall;

- \$15 million dollars to Colorado state university for the first phase of a three-phase project to construct a chemistry building addition;
- \$11,592,712 to the university of Colorado, Boulder campus, for phase two of a two-phase project to upgrade the Ketchum arts and sciences building;
- \$5,279,128 to the Metropolitan state university of Denver for the first phase of a three-phase project to construct a new facility to support the development of an aviation, aerospace, and advanced manufacturing degree program;
- \$18,462,102 to Colorado Mesa university for the construction of additions to and renovation of the Tomlinson library;
- \$5,843,218 to Adams state university for renovations of a newly purchased building on its east campus to address accessibility, code, and life-safety deficiencies;
- \$25,779,853 to Western state Colorado university for renovations of Quigley hall to address code-compliance issues in the two-story academic building;
- \$16,070,000 to the office of information technology for its statewide leave, time tracking, and human resources management systems modernization; and
- \$21,480,980 to fund level two controlled maintenance projects through score fourteen as prioritized by the office of the state architect.

The act specifies that if the amount transferred to the capital construction fund is less than \$135,335,748, then the general assembly is required to appropriate the amount transferred in the order of the prioritized list above, but only insofar as the transfer can completely fund a prioritized project. The act further specifies that if the transfer is not sufficient to completely fund the first prioritized project, then the appropriation must be made for the next or following project in the prioritized list that could be completely funded, and so forth; except that if there are no next or following projects in the prioritized list that could be completely funded, then the general assembly is required to wait to make any further appropriations until additional amounts are transferred. The act then specifies that if additional amounts are transferred, then the general assembly is required to appropriate the amount transferred in order of the next or following prioritized project that can be completely funded.

The act also specifies that if the amount transferred is not sufficient to cover all level two controlled maintenance projects through score fourteen then the general assembly is required to appropriate the amounts necessary to fully fund each score up to score fourteen.

The act also transfers \$1 million from the state historical fund to the capital construction fund for the 2014-15 fiscal year for historical renovations of the state house of representatives' chambers and the state senate's chambers.

APPROVED by Governor May 2, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 2, 2014

H.B. 14-1387 Revisions of All Capital Related Statutes (Szabo/Schwartz)

Section 2 gives the department of public safety the authority to purchase real property for the Colorado bureau of investigation office and lab in Denver.

Section 3 makes changes to the definitions used in the department of personnel's state buildings statutes. These definitions are then used throughout the capital development committee's statutes, the office of state planning and budgeting's statutes, and the Colorado commission on higher education's statutes. The definitions are updated to include items considered capital construction, capital renewal, and controlled maintenance in current practice. The act changes "facility" to the

more accurate term "real property". The act separates "state institutions of higher education" from the term "state agencies".

Sections 4 and 5 make conforming amendments to the department of personnel's responsibilities related to state buildings as a result of the definition changes and updates those responsibilities to more clearly reflect current practice. Conforming amendments are made to the requirement that the department of personnel prepare and maintain inventories of state property. Most particularly, the act removes the responsibility from the department of personnel to establish a separate inventory of computer equipment and all other capital assets valued in excess of \$100,000 as this responsibility was never fulfilled by the department.

Section 6 makes conforming amendments and changes to reflect current practice to provisions related to the eligibility for state-controlled maintenance funding. Items in the definition of "controlled maintenance" and in other provisions of law are relocated for ease of access and clarity.

Sections 7, 8 and 9 make conforming amendments to the life-cycle cost analysis requirements for the department of personnel. Other changes in section 9 reorganize current law, including relocation of some provisions to reflect that life-cycle analysis is a different concept from high performance standards certification.

Section 10 makes conforming amendments to the legislative declaration in the state buildings statute.

Sections 11 and 12 repeal provisions that are relocated within the act.

Sections 13 through 20 make conforming amendments to the capital development committee's enacting statutes. Most specifically, these sections:

- Add cross references to the new definitions;
- Make changes to reflect the new definitions;
- Clarify the capital development committee's duty to forecast the states's need for capital construction, capital renewal, and controlled maintenance, as well as to forecast the projected available revenue to meet such needs for the state. The act changes the time to be analyzed in the forecast for projected available revenue.
- Clarify that it is the capital development committee's responsibility to review all acquisitions of real property by a state agency or state institution of higher education;
- Establish deadlines by which the capital development committee submits its prioritization of capital construction, capital renewal, and controlled maintenance budget requests to the joint budget committee; and
- Eliminate the automatic repeal of the capital development committee.

Section 21 makes conforming amendments to the statute that delineates the joint budget committee's powers and duties in order to reflect the new definitions and strikes the reference to the repeal of the capital development committee's enacting statutes.

Sections 22 through 31 allow qualified state institutions of higher education with a building department that meets or exceeds minimum standards adopted by the state electrical board and the state plumbing board to continue performing their own permitting and inspections for electrical and plumbing work related to their own construction or remodeling projects.

Section 32 makes conforming amendments to the capital construction definition used in the "Building Excellent Schools Today Act".

Section 33 amends the "Building Excellent Schools Today Act" to allow an applicant school district that is approved for an award of financial assistance as an alternate award recipient and that successfully raises required matching moneys through voter-approval of a ballot question for

contracting bonded indebtedness but that does not actually receive financial assistance because all primary award recipients or higher priority alternate award recipients also successfully raised required matching moneys to resubmit its application for financial assistance as previously approved during the next application cycle.

Section 34 makes conforming changes to the description of the duties and powers of the Colorado commission on higher education with respect to capital construction and long-range planning.

Section 35 clarifies that the governor's approval of the expenditure of money from funds derived from the sale of lands donated by an 1862 act of congress is not reliant on requirements specified in the capital construction fund statutes.

Section 36 makes conforming amendments to provisions describing the need for long-range planning for capital construction, controlled maintenance, and capital renewal by the heads of principal departments.

Section 37 makes conforming amendments to definitions related to the negotiation of professional services' contracts.

Section 38 makes conforming amendments and specifies that the requirement to conduct discussions with no less than 3 persons regarding the professional services such persons would provide applies only where the fee for such professional services is estimated to equal or exceed \$25,000.

Section 39 makes conforming amendments to provisions addressing the requirements for contracts for professional services.

Section 40 changes requirements that notice be given in a newspaper of general circulation when a state agency is seeking to contract for the professional services to allow the notice to be given either electronically or by newspaper.

Sections 41 and 42 make conforming amendments to the criminal liability provisions addressing contracts for professional services.

Section 43 changes the definitions applicable to provisions delineating the office of state planning and budgeting's responsibilities.

Section 44 changes the deadlines for the capital budget submissions by the office of state planning and budgeting to the capital development committee.

Section 45 requires the office of information technology to establish, maintain, and keep a separate inventory of information technology equipment valued in excess of \$100,000 owned by or held in trust for every state agency.

Section 46 makes conforming amendments and changes to the provisions governing art in public places to clarify that the 1% requirement is calculated based on total construction costs, rather than the total project costs, appropriated in each year. Section 46 also explicitly allows an appropriation for professional services to include planning for the acquisition of public art.

Section 47 makes a conforming amendment to the definition of "capital outlay" related to the new capital construction, capital renewal, and controlled maintenance definitions in the act.

Section 48 makes a conforming amendment to provisions restricting state appropriations related to the new capital construction definition in the act.

Sections 49 through 54 make conforming amendments, make technical changes, and remove obsolete provisions related to the capital construction fund.

Section 55 modifies provisions related to the capitol complex master plan to clarify that statutory references to any other buildings, facilities, and surface parking lots acquired after May 28, 2013, refers to such buildings, facilities, and surface parking lots belonging to the capitol complex.

2017, the office is required to submit to legislative committees a report that includes information about the tax credits issued and the economic benefits from the related qualified investments.

APPROVED by Governor May 29, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 29, 2014

H.B. 14-1178 **Sales & Use Tax Exemption For Space Flight** **(Ferrandino & DelGrosso/Hodge & Grantham)**
Prop

The act creates a state tax exemption for all sales, storage, and use of qualified property used in space flight and outlines the reporting requirements for the exemption. The act further specifies that local statutory taxing jurisdictions may choose to adopt the same exemption by express inclusion in their sales and use tax ordinance or resolution.

\$31,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the department of revenue for allocation to the taxation business group for CITA annual maintenance and support related to the implementation of this act.

The act makes adjustments to the 2014 general appropriation act for the implementation of this act.

APPROVED by Governor May 20, 2014

EFFECTIVE May 20, 2014

H.B. 14-1193 **Research Retrieval Fees Public Records** **(Salazar/Kefalas)**
Under CORA

The act allows a custodian of public records under the "Colorado Open Records Act" to impose a fee in response to a request for the research and retrieval of such records only if the custodian has, prior to the date of receiving the request, either posted on the custodian's web site or otherwise published a written policy that specifies the applicable conditions concerning the research and retrieval of public records by the custodian, including the amount of any current fee. Under any such policy, the custodian is precluded from imposing a charge for the first hour of time expended in connection with the research and retrieval of public records. After the first hour of time has been expended, the custodian may charge a fee for the research and retrieval of public records that does not exceed \$30 per hour.

The act requires the director of research of the legislative council to adjust the maximum hourly fee for inflation on July 1, 2019, and by July 1 of every 5-year period thereafter and to post the adjusted maximum hourly fee on the web site of the general assembly.

APPROVED by Governor May 2, 2014

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2014

H.B. 14-1205 **Veterans Assistance Grant Program** **(Ryden/Crowder)**

The veterans assistance grant program (program) is created in the division of veterans affairs within the state department of military and veterans affairs (department) to provide moneys to nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies that provide services to ensure the health and well-being of veterans of the United States armed forces who live in Colorado.

On or before September 1, 2014, the adjutant general, in consultation with the board of Veterans Affairs, shall adopt rules for the administration of the program, including but not limited to:

- Criteria for determining which nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies are eligible to receive moneys from the program; and

S.B. 14-118 **Protections for Individuals with Disabilities (Melton/Steadman)**

The act conforms several definitions related to discrimination based on a disability (discrimination) to the federal "Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990", including changing the term "assistance dog" to "service animal". The statutory fine for discrimination in places of public accommodation, housing, and or violations of the rights of an individual with a disability who uses a service animal or a trainer of a service animal is increased to an amount not to exceed \$3,500, plus actual monetary damages, attorney fees and costs, and an order for compliance, if applicable. A small business defendant is entitled to a 50% reduction of the statutory fine assessed if it corrects the accessibility violation within 30 days after the filing of the complaint, unless the defendant knowingly or intentionally caused the accessibility violation. Penalties are added for a person who causes harm to a service animal or service animal in training or a person who owns an animal that causes harm to a service animal or service animal in training.

APPROVED by Governor May 22, 2014

EFFECTIVE August 6, 2014



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Research Federal Legislation

113th Congress, 2nd Session

H.R. 3698 **Two-Midnight Rule Delay Act of 2013** **(Gerlach)**

Two-Midnight Rule Delay Act of 2013 - Prohibits the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) from enforcing the two-midnight rule to a hospital for which payment is made under title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act for admissions occurring before October 1, 2014.

Advocated in support for this bill.

Status: 12/11/2013 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

S. 2082 **Two-Midnight Rule Coordination and Improvement Act of 2014** **(Menendez)**

Two-Midnight Rule Coordination and Improvement Act of 2014 - Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop appropriate criteria with regard to the two-midnight rule for payment under title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act for a short inpatient hospital stay.

Advocated in support for this bill.

Status: 03/05/2014 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 2996 **Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014** **(Reed)**

Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014 - (Sec. 3) Amends the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish within the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) a Network for Manufacturing Innovation Program to:

- improve the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing and increase production of goods manufactured predominately within the United States;
- stimulate U.S. leadership in advanced manufacturing research, innovation, and technology;
- accelerate the development of an advanced manufacturing workforce; and create and preserve jobs.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: Passed House amended (09/15/2014)

S.1468 **Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014** **(Brown)**

Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014 - (Sec. 3) Amends the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish within the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) a Network for Manufacturing Innovation Program to:

- improve measurably the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing and increase domestic production;

- stimulate U.S. leadership in advanced manufacturing research, innovation, and technology with a strong potential to generate substantial benefits extending significantly beyond direct return to Program participants; and
- accelerate measurably the development of an advanced manufacturing workforce.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: 08/26/2014 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 547

**H.R. 2413 Weather Forecasting Improvement Act of (Bridenstine)
2013**

Weather Forecasting Improvement Act of 2014 - (Sec. 2) Requires the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (who is also the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration [NOAA]) to prioritize weather-related activities, including the provision of improved weather data, forecasts, and warnings for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy, in all relevant line offices.

Expressed concerns with this bill.

Status: Passed House amended (04/01/2014)

H.R. 4186 FIRST Act of 2014 (Bucshon)

Frontiers in Innovation, Research, Science, and Technology Act of 2014 or FIRST Act of 2014 - Authorizes appropriations for FY2014-FY2015 to the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Expressed concerns with this bill.

Discussed Technology Transfer at the university, as well as discussed various proposals to enhance this area, including H.R. 4186.

Status: 05/28/2014 Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.

H.R. 3309 Innovation Act (Goodlatte)

Innovation Act - (Sec. 3) Directs a party alleging infringement in a civil action involving a claim for relief arising under any Act of Congress relating to patents to include in the court pleadings, unless the information is not reasonably accessible, specified details concerning:

- each claim of each patent allegedly infringed, including each accused process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter (referred to as an "accused instrumentality") alleged to infringe the claim;
- for each claim of indirect infringement, the acts of the alleged indirect infringer that contribute to, or are inducing, a direct infringement;
- the principal business, if any, of the party alleging infringement;
- the authority of the party alleging infringement to assert each patent and the grounds for the court's jurisdiction;
- each complaint filed that asserts any of the same patents; and
- whether a standard-setting body has specifically declared such patent to be essential, potentially essential, or having potential to become essential to that body, as well as whether the United States or a foreign government has imposed any specific licensing requirements.

Expressed concerns with this bill.

Status: 12/09/2013 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**S.1720 Patent Transparency and Improvement Act (Leahy)
of 2013**

Patent Transparency and Improvements Act of 2013 - Directs a court to require a patentee who has filed a civil action for patent infringement to disclose to the court and to all adverse parties any persons, associations, corporations (including parent corporations), or other entities known by the patentee to have: (1) a financial interest in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding, or (2) any other interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding.

Expressed concerns with this bill.

Status: 12/17/2013 Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held.

S.2692 Campus Accountability and Safety Act (McCaskill)

Campus Accountability and Safety Act - Amends provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965 known as the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to require institutions of higher education (IHEs) that participate in title IV (Student Assistance) programs to include in their annual campus security reports provided to current and prospective students and employees:

- the memorandum of understanding that this Act requires IHEs to enter into with local law enforcement agencies (and update every two years) to clearly delineate responsibilities and share information about certain serious crimes, including sexual violence, occurring against students or other individuals on campus; and
- specified information regarding the disposition of sexual offense cases by the IHE.

Expressed support for ongoing efforts to curb the prevalence of sexual assaults on campus, and discussed campus efforts on this issue as it relates to draft legislation, including the Campus Accountability and Safety Act.

Status: 12/09/2014 Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism. Hearings held.

**H.R. 83 Consolidated and Further Continuing (Christensen)
Appropriations Act, 2015**

The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 provides appropriations for most of the federal government through the end of FY2015 and continuing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security through February 27, 2015.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: 12/16/2014 Became Public Law No: 113-235.

**H.R. 4188 Establishing Beneficiary Equity in the (Renacci)
Hospital Readmission Program Act**

Establishing Beneficiary Equity in the Hospital Readmission Program Act - Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act (SSA) with respect to the hospital readmission reduction program to exclude from the program admissions related to transplants, end-stage renal disease (ESRD), burns, trauma, psychosis, or substance abuse.

S.1012 Medicare Audit Improvement Act of 2013 (Blunt)

Medicare Audit Improvement Act of 2013 - Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish a process which subjects to a single, combined maximum annual limit, applied incrementally, the number of additional documentation requests made to a hospital by Medicare administrative contractors, recovery audit contractors, or Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (CERT) program contractors pursuant to prepayment and postpayment audits requiring a hospital to submit a medical record for audit purposes.

Advocated in support of this bill

Status: 05/22/2013 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.



Tanya Kelly-Bowry
Vice President

Tanya Kelly-Bowry was selected by President Benson and confirmed in October, 2008 by the Board of Regents, as vice president of government relations. She was chosen to lead the university's efforts to increase funding at the state and federal levels. Kelly-Bowry has more than 20 years of advocacy experience, having lobbied on behalf of higher education, human services and health care issues in both Colorado and Washington, D.C. She earned bachelor's degrees in international affairs and political science at CU-Boulder and a master's degree in nonprofit management from Regis University as a Colorado Trust Fellow. Kelly-Bowry also studied at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government as a member of the senior executives in state and local government.



Abby Benson
Associate Vice President of Government Relations

Abby Benson is the Associate Vice President of Government Relations. In this role, Abby ensures the flow of information between the university and relevant stakeholders in Colorado and Washington, DC, and advocates for increased support for CU priorities, including research and higher education funding and policies, at both the state and federal levels. Abby has served in several leadership roles in the higher education government relations community, including as a past Chair of the Association of American Universities (AAU) Council on Federal Relations and as a member of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) Council on Government Affairs Executive Committee. In 2012, Abby also served as President of the Science Coalition, an organization dedicated to strengthening the federal government's investment in university-based scientific, medical, engineering and agricultural research. Prior to joining CU, Abby held the position of Assistant Director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT) Washington, DC Office. Abby also served for over nine years as an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard, with specialties in maritime safety, security, environmental protection, planning, and budgeting. Earlier in her career, Aby worked as an earth scientist for Tetra Tech and Arthur D. Little. Abby earned a BS in geology and geophysics from Yale University; earned a MS and MEng in transportation and logistics from MIT; and served as a Marshall Memorial Fellow in 2009.



Natalie Ellis
Executive Assistant of Federal Relations

Natalie Ellis is the Executive Assistant of Federal Relations. She supports a broad range of administrative, research, writing, and analytical duties that are designed to support CU's federal relations efforts. She prepares and sends out the quarterly Government Relations department newsletter. She also works closely with each congressional office to schedule Hill visits and assists with constituent requests

regarding issues on campus. Natalie helps plan and coordinate federal events on CU campuses. Additionally, she makes travel arrangements, drafts correspondence, and prepares department expense system reports. Natalie has a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from University of Nevada, Las Vegas.



Heather Fields
Director of State and Federal Relations

Heather Fields is the Associate Director of State and Federal Relations. She is responsible for analyzing and tracking legislation during the state session, as well as preparing fact sheets for use with legislators. She also organizes state legislator tours and events and works with state legislative offices on constituent issues. Additionally, helps prepare correspondence and updates to the university community on legislation. She assists the lobby team with coverage of committee hearings and floor work at the Capitol. Heather worked in the office as a student assistant for three years. She also served as Executive Assistant to our state and federal lobbyists, and Special Assistant to the Executive Director and Policy Analyst of State Relations. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder and is pursuing a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs. In FY 2012, Heather was a fellow in the CU Emerging Leaders Program.



Connie Johnson
Chief of Staff

In 2007, Connie Johnson joined the Office of Government Relations as the Senior Policy Analyst and Assistant Director. She is responsible for managing the day-to-day office operations, managing the department's budget and website, providing support to the Vice President and supporting state and federal activities. She monitors the healthcare legislation during the State session, and coordinates the Colorado Capital Conference for CU. Prior to CU, Connie served for over 18 years in higher education in Washington State. She has a B.S. in Accounting from Central Washington University, a Master of Public Administration from the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington, and was a fellow in the 2008 CU Emerging Leaders Program.



Kirsten Schuchman
Assistant Vice President of State Relations

Kirsten Schuchman serves as Senior Director of State Relations. She serves all four institutions in the CU system by taking the lead on much of the legislation affecting CU, as well as being the lead on system-wide capital construction funding and health care policy issues for the University of Colorado Hospital, University of Colorado Denver School of Nursing, and the CU Colorado Springs Beth El College of Nursing and Health Sciences. She also takes special interest in CU's issues related to research, technology transfer, academic programs and administration. Kirsten is an alumnus of the 50 for Colorado 2005 program and is active in the Denver metro non-profit community. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her husband, daughter, family and friends, hiking, camping, traveling to exotic

places and enjoying Denver. Kirsten has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia and a Master of Arts in Higher Education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



David Sprenger

Assistant Vice President of Federal Relations

David Sprenger, Assistant Vice President for Federal Relations is based in Washington, DC, and has expanded the presence of the University of Colorado by developing strong and effective relationships with Congressional offices, legislative staff, federal departments, professional organizations, industry and key advocacy groups within the federal departments and with the Congressional offices. He brings over 10 years of firsthand professional experience in Washington, D.C. both from both Capitol Hill and in federal relations consulting with an extensive background on public policy and direct advocacy. David, represents several interest at the University of Colorado on both a system and campus level. David, a Colorado-native, received Bachelor degrees in Political Science and History from Regis University, and holds a Master degree in Public Policy from George Mason University.



Kent Springfield

Assistant Vice President of Research and Federal Relations

Kent serves as Assistant Vice President of Research and Federal Relations. He is the lead on all federal issues for the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus and the University of Colorado Hospital. Kent represents Anschutz and UCH on issues including biomedical and healthcare research funding and policy, student financial aid, healthcare workforce issues, and healthcare delivery. He represents the University of Colorado System on issues related to intellectual property. Kent is active in the AAMC Government Relations Representatives, the AAU Council on Federal Relations, the AAHC Steering Committee and the American Association of Cancer Institutes. Kent serves at the Biomedical Task Force lead for the APLU Council on Governmental Affairs. Prior to joining the University of Colorado, he spent five years as the Director of Government Relations for the George Washington University. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Communications and Master of Business Administration from GW.



Jack Waldorf

Director of Federal Relations

Jack Waldorf serves as Associate Director of Federal Relations. Based in Denver, Jack is responsible for federal activities here locally and works with our Washington, DC-based team on federal policy issues impacting the University of Colorado System and its campuses, as well as the hospital. Prior to joining CU, Jack worked in both the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate serving as a policy advisor for both education and health care issues, and comes to CU with a deep understanding in public policy and the legislative process at the federal level. Jack holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder. A Colorado native, Jack enjoys spending time with his wife, enjoying Colorado's outdoors, and cheering on Colorado's sports teams.